

Ephesians

“Riches of His Grace”

BACKGROUND TO THE EPISTLE

Dr. Wendell Calder

Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon are referred to as the PRISON EPISTLES. They were written during Paul’s imprisonment in Rome. (Eph. 3:1; Phil. 1:7; Col. 4:10; Philemon 9). Some writers suggest that EPHESIANS was a circular letter to the churches in Asia Minor. It was possibly sent first to Ephesus by Tychicus (Eph. 6:21, 22; Col. 4:7, 8) and could be the same letter that is called “THE EPISTLE FROM LAODICA” in Colossians 4:16.

The Apostle Paul spent three years in Ephesus (Acts 19; 20:17-38), and as a result of his ministry, a church was established in that city. Paul left Aquila and Priscilla in Ephesus during his Second Missionary Journey (Acts 18:18,19). This, without a doubt, was the introduction of the gospel to Ephesus. On his Third Missionary Journey, Paul stayed in Ephesus for a prolonged time and from here the gospel spread throughout all Asia Minor (Acts 19:10). Ephesus was a major trading center as well as a political and religious center. It was noted for the Great Temple of Diana and for the worship of the Goddess Diana (Acts 19:23-41). Demetrius, the silversmith, started up the people against Paul and his preaching because people were turning to God from idols. This was not good for their occupation of making and selling silver shrines of Diana. Timothy was Pastor of the church at Ephesus following the ministry of Paul (1 Tim. 1:3).

The EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS is an exciting book! This book tells us how anyone can become a Christian and how God wants us to live the Christian life. Paul, directed by the Holy Spirit, writes this letter some ten years after his ministry in Ephesus. God has taught him some great truths concerning CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH. And he wanted to share these with the Ephesian believers. Paul, from his prison cell in Rome, (Eph. 3:1; 4:1; 6:20) pens this letter to the saints in Ephesus. Onesimus, a slave, ran away from his master, Philemon, who lived in Colosse. Onesimus met Paul while in Rome and was saved. Tychicus, one of the Pastors of the church last Colosse, was also in Rome to meet and talk with Paul. The Apostle used this opportunity to send three letters: EPHESIANS, COLOSSIANS, AND PHILEMON. He also sent Onesimus back to his master. The main theme of the EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS is THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE! Ephesus was considered the Bank of Asia and Paul uses this to relate the true riches which are only found in Christ. In this Epistle we have a balance between BELIEF AND BEHAVIOR - CONVICTION AND CONDUCT - DOCTRINE AND DUTY. I trust we will each one lay hold of all that is ours “IN CHRIST” (used 27 times in Ephesians) as we now study this great Epistle.

"EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS"

"RICHES OF HIS GRACE"

Key verse — 1:7

BY DR. WENDELL CALDER

**I. BANQUET OF DAILY PROVISIONS — chapters 1-3
(My wealth in Christ)**

A. Wealth of His Glory — Chapter 1

1. INTRODUCTION — 1:1-3
2. INSIGHT 1:4-23

a. Planned by the Sovereign 1:4-6

- (1) He elected us — 1:4 **SOVEREIGN**
- (2) He predestined us — 1:5:6 **HATH**
- (3) ((Vs. 6 — To the Praise of His Glory)) **WROUGHT**

b. Purchased by the Son — 1:7-12

- (1) Redeemed by His Blood — 1:7 **SON HATH**
- (2) Gathered in His Name — 1:10 **BROUGHT**
- (3) Predestined for His Glory — 1:11,12
((Vs. 12 — to the Praise of His Glory))

c. Presented by the Spirit — 1:13,14

- (1) The Plan (what?) — 1:13 **SPIRIT**
- (2) The Purpose (why?) — 1:14 **HATH**
- ((Vs. 14 to the Praise of His Glory)) **TAUGHT**

d. Perceived by the Saint — 1:15-23

**SAINT HATH
SOUGHT**

Prayer #1 — "ENLIGHTENMENT TO PERCEIVE TRUTH"
1:15-23 (DISCERNMENT)

Prayer #2 — "ENABLEMENT TO PRACTICE TRUTH"
3:14-21 (DYNAMIC)

- (1) PRAYS — Church may know the God of Glory — 1:15-17
- (2) PRAYS — Church may know the Glory of God — 1:18-23
 - (a) As seen in His Christians — 1:18,19
 - (b) As seen in Christ — 1:20,21
 - (c) As seen in His Church — 1:22,23

B. WEALTH OF HIS GRACE — CHAPTER 2

3 GREAT WORKS OF GOD

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | His Work for Me | (Cross) | Salvation |
| 2. | His Work in Me | (Conform) | Sanctification |
| 3. | His Work through Me | (Communicate) | Service |

1. THE SINNERS STATE — 2:1-3,12

- a. Dead in Sin — 2:1
- b. Deceived by the System — 2:2
- c. Dominated by Satan — 2:2
- d. Degenerate in Standards — 2:3
- e. Destined to Separation 2:3,12
 - (1) Without a Savior — 2:12
 - (2) Without a Salvation — 2:12
 - (3) Without a Security — 2:12
- f. Delivered by the Savior — 2:8-10

2. THE SINNERS SALVATION — 2:4-22

- a. A Great Love — 2:4
- b. A Great Life — 2:5
- c. A Great Lift — 2:6
- d. A Great Lord — 2:6-22
 - (1) Person of Peace — 2:14
 - (2) Provision of Peace — 2:15
 - (3) Preaching of Peace — 2:17
 - (4) Procuring of Peace — Romans 5:1
- 1. MADE NIGH BY THE BLOOD — 2:12,18
- 2. MADE NEW IN THE BODY — 2:14-22
 - (a) At Peace with God — 2:14
 - (b) At Peace with Gentiles — 2:15-22

SPIRITUAL DISTANCE AND DIVISION OVERCOME BY CHRIST — (PRINCE OF PEACE)

**C. WEALTH OF HIS GOSPEL — CHAPTER 3
(THE “MYSTERY” OF THE CHURCH)**

1. THE CHURCH A PICTURE OF IT — 3:1-13
 - a. Perception of the Church — 3:3,4,9
 - b. Plan of the Church — 3:6,10
 - c. People of the Church — 3:6
 - d. Purpose of the Church — 3:8,10
 - e. Preachers of the Church — 3:7
 - f. Precepts of the Church — 3:1,6,8,11,12
 - g. Power of the Church — 3:7
 - (1) New Relationship — 3:6
 - (2) New Resources — 3:7
 - (3) New Riches — 3:8

2. THE CHURCH: A PRAYER FOR IT — 3:14-21
(Prayer #2 - Enablement to Practice Truth)
 - a. For Strength — 3:14-16
 - b. For Security — 3:17
 - c. For Satisfaction — 3:18,19
 - d. For Sovereignty — 3:20,21

CHRIST IS SOVEREIGN

- I. Of Him — 1:23
- II. In Him — 2:21
- III. Through Him — 2:18
- IV. Unto Him — 3:21

**II. BUSINESS OF DAILY PERFORMANCE — CHAPTER 4:1-6:9
(MY WALK IN THE COMMUNITY)**

A. A WALK THAT IS GODLY — Chapter 4:1-32

1. Promote Unity in the Body — 4:16
2. Produces Usefulness of the Body — 4:7-16
3. Purge is the Unclean from the body — 4:17-32

B. A WALK THAT IS GRACIOUS — Chapter 5:16

1. Walk in Love — 5:1-7
2. Walking in Light — 5:8-14
3. Walk in Love and Light — 5:15-6:9
(Key — 5:18 — Filled with the Spirit)

WE NEED — THE WISDOM OF GOD — 5:15

- a. In My Time — 5:16
- b. In My Tasks — 5:17,18
- c. In My Testimony — 5:19
- d. In My Thanksgiving — 5:20
- e. In My Treatment of Others — 5:21-6:9

PRODUCT — A HOLY — HAPPY — HARMONIOUS — HUMAN RELATIONSHIP IN THE HOME!

**III. BATTLE OF DAILY PERSISTENCE — CHAPTER 6:10-24
(MY WARFARE IN COMBAT)**

- A. A WARFARE THAT IS GIGANTIC — Chapter 6:10-24
 - 1. THE ENEMY WE FACE — 6:10-12
 - a. His Target — 6:11,12
 - b. His Timing — (*Note: Follows Section on the Home*)
 - c. His Tactics — 6:11
 - 2. THE EQUIPMENT WE ARE FURNISHED — 6:13-18
 - 3. THE ENERGY WE FIND — 6:19-24
 - a. Boldness to Speak — 6:19,20
 - b. Brethren to Share — 6:21-24

“EPHESIANS”

DEFINE THESE WORDS OR TERMS

1. **SAINT** One who has trusted Christ as personal Savior — Been set apart.

2. **Election** God chose us in Christ — Always unto something — It is a privilege that carries a great responsibility — His Sovereign Grace
Looks back and tells us why we were chosen (1:4) When — Eternity Past — Why — To be Holy — Fruitful — John 15:16; I Peter 1:15,16

3. **PREDESTINATION** To mark out beforehand — It is what God does for saved people.
looks for it and tells us why we were chosen (1:5) — To Predetermine. ELECTION seems to refer to PEOPLE.
PREDESTINATION refers to PURPOSES.
OUR ADOPTION (Ephesians 1:5) — OUR CONFORMITY TO CHRIST (Romans 8:29,30) — OUR FUTURE INHERITANCE (Ephesians 1:11).

4. **ADOPTION** Act of God WHEREBY HE GIVES HIS “BORN ONES” AN ADULT STANDING
IN THE FAMILY — SO WE CAN IMMEDIATELY CLAIM OUR INHERITANCE
(Galatians 4:1-7)
FUTURE ASPECT (Romans 8:22,23) — GLORIFIED BODY WE WILL HAVE
PRIVATE NOW BUT PUBLIC THEN.

5. **ACCEPTED** (1:6) We cannot make ourselves acceptable to God. — He, by His
Grace, makes us accepted in Christ.

6. **REDEEMED** (1:7) To redeem — to buy back — to release by ransom (1 Peter
3 Stages: 1:18,19) — BY HIS BLOOD (II Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 9:12).
1. Have Been Free — From Law (Gal. 5:1) From Slavery to Sin (Rom. 6) From
(Eph. 1:7) Power of Satan (Gal. 1:4; Col. 1:13,14).
2. Are Being (Rom. 8:14)
3. Shall Be (I John 3:13)

7. **FORGIVENESS** (1:7) Forgive — To carry away — (*Illustration*: Day of Atonement
— Scapegoat — (Lev. 16) — CHRIST (John 1:29; Psalm 103:12).

8. **MYSTERY**
A DIVINE SECRET
WHICH IS KNOWN ONLY
TO THOSE TO WHOM IT
IS REVEALED! (3:3) cf.
(I Cor. 2:7-12)
“SACRED SECRET!”
- (1:8-10) A sacred trust once hidden but newly revealed to God’s people. (V. 10) Everything is moving towards the glorious consummation of all things. (Phil. 2:10,11) where made known - In His Word (II Pet. 1:19)
9. **INHERITANCE**
Joint Heirs with
Christ — He cannot
claim His Inheritance
apart from us.
(Rom. 8:17)
CHRIST WILL BE
GLORIFIED IN US (II
Thes. 1:10)
WE WILL BE GLORIFIED
IN CHRIST (Col. 3:4)
- (1:11) IN CHRIST — WE ARE AN INHERITANCE AND WE HAVE AN INHERITANCE (I Pet. 1:1-4; Rom. 8:17,32; I Cor. 3:21-23; II Tim. 2:12; Rev. 5:10). INHERITANCE speaks of Riches — wealth — possessions — Christ’s future inheritance is wrapped up in His Church.
SON — Father’s LOVE GIFT TO US. (John 17)
SAINTS — Father’s LOVE GIFT TO HIS SON. (John 17)
10. **CHURCH**
We are saved by
Grace through Faith
(Eph. 2:8) We live by
Grace through Faith.
(I Cor. 15:10)
- (1:22) AN ORGANISM — A called out Assembly
(1) A BODY — (Eph. 1:22,23)
(2) A BUILDING — (Eph. 5:19-22)
(3) A BRIDE — (Eph. 5:22-23) — CHRIST IS THE HEAD —
Members subject to Him (Eph. 5:24)
11. **EARNEST**
(1:14) THE GUARANTEE — THE PLEDGE — HOLY SPIRIT IS THE GUARANTEE WE WILL ONE DAY ENTER INTO ALL THAT IS OURS IN CHRIST. — (Eph. 4:30; John 14:16,17) THE DOWN PAYMENT TO GUARANTEE THE FINAL Purchase of some commodity or a piece of property — The redemption of the Purchased possession refers to the Redemption of the body at the return of Christ — (Rom. 8:18-23; I John 3:1-3). EARNEST also means “ENGAGEMENT RING”.

12. **SEALED** (1:13) Denotes OWNERSHIP AND SECURITY — We belong to Him and we shall always belong to Him — sealed unto the journey's end. (Eph. 4:30)
- (1) A FINISHED TRANSACTION — Documents — Seal signifies finality.
 - (2) OWNERSHIP — sealed us because He has purchased us (I Cor. 6:19,20).
 - (3) SECURITY AND PROJECTION (*Illustration:* Roman Seal on Jesus' Tomb — Matt. 27:62-66) (John 14:16,17) — Holy Spirit abides with us forever.
 - (4) AUTHENTICITY — Just as a signature on a letter proves its genuineness, so the presence of the Holy Spirit. Proves the believer is genuine (Rom. 8:9).
13. **WISDOM** (1:17) DIVINE DISCERNMENT — Proper use of knowledge (James 1:5)
14. **PRINCIPALITY** (1:21) Words describe different orders of Angels
POWER (Romans 8:28; Eph. 3:10; 6:12; Col. 1:16; 2:10; 15;
MIGHT Titus 3:1)
DOMINION
15. **QUICKENED** (2:1) To make alive
16. **DEAD IN SINS** (2:1) PHYSICAL DEATH — Separation of the Body from the Soul.
 By nature we are SPIRITUALLY DEAD! SPIRITUAL DEATH — Separation of the Soul from God.
17. **RECONCILE** (2:16) To bring together again — Law made a definite distinction between Jew and Gentile.
18. **ABOLISHED** (2:15) To nullify — To render inactive.

EPHESIANS
KEYWORDS

1. **WALK**

- A. 2:2 WALKED ACCORDING TO THE COURSE OF THE WORLD
- B. 2:10 WALKED IN PATH OF GOOD WORKS
- C. 4:1 WALK IN WORTHY OF THE VOCATION
- D. 4:17 WALK NOT AS OTHER GENTILES
- E. 4:17 WALK IN THE VANITY OF THEIR MIND
- F. 5:2 WALK IN LOVE
- G. 5:8 WALKERS CHILDREN OF LIGHT
- H. 5:15 WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY

2. **MYSTERY**

- A. 1:9 MYSTERY OF HIS WILL
- B. 3:3 HE MADE KNOWN TO ME THE MYSTERY
- C. 3:4 MYSTERY OF CHRIST
- D. 3:9 FELLOWSHIP OF THE MYSTERY
- E. 5:32 THIS IS A GREAT MYSTERY
- F. 6:19 THE MYSTERY OF THE GOSPEL

3. **CHURCH**

- A. 1:22 GAVE HIM HEAD OVER THE THE CHURCH
- B. 3:10 KNOWN BY THE CHURCH THE MANIFOLD WISDOM OF GOD
- C. 3:21 AND TO HIM BE GLORY IN THE CHURCH
- D. 5:23 CHRIST IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH
- E. 5:24 CHURCH IS SUBJECT UNTO CHRIST
- F. 5:25 CHRIST LOVED THE CHURCH — GAVE HIMSELF FOR IT
- G. 5:27 THAT WE MIGHT PRESENT IT A GLORIOUS CHURCH
- H. 5:29 LORD NOURISHES AND CHERISHES THE CHURCH
- I. 5:32 MYSTERY OF CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH

4. **RICHES**

- A. 1:7 RICHES OF HIS GRACE OF HIS GRACE 1:7; 2:7
- B. 1:18 RICHES OF HIS GLORY OF HIS GLORY 1:18; 3:16
- C. 2:4 GOD WHO IS RICH IN MERCY UNSEARCHABLE 3:8
- D. 2:7 SHOW THE EXCEEDING RICHES OF HIS GRACE
- E. 3:8 UNSEARCHABLE RICHES OF CHRIST
- F. 3:16 RICHES OF HIS GLORY

5. **HOLY SPIRIT**

- A. 1:13 SEALED WITH THAT HOLY SPIRIT OF PROMISE
- B. 2:18 BOTH OF ACCESS BY ONE SPIRIT UNTO THE FATHER
- C. 2:22 HABITATION OF GOD THROUGH THE SPIRIT
- D. 3:5 MYSTERY REVEALED BY THE SPIRIT
- E. 3:16 STRENGTHENED BY HIS SPIRIT IN THE INNER MAN
- F. 4:3 ENDEAVORING TO KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT
- G. 4:4 ONE SPIRIT
- H. 4:30 GRIEVE NOT THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD WHEREBY YOU ARE SEALED
- I. 5:9 FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT
- J. 5:18 BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT
- K. 6:17 TAKE THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT
- L. 6:18 PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION IN THE SPIRIT

6. **GRACE**

- A. 1:2 GRACE BE WITH YOU
- B. 1:6 TO THE PRAISE OF THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE
- C. 1:7 RICHES OF HIS GRACE
- D. 2:5 BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED
- E. 2:7 RICHES OF HIS GRACE
- F. 2:8 BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED
- G. 3:2 DISPENSATION OF THE GRACE OF GOD
- H. 3:7 GIFT OF THE GRACE OF GOD
- I. 3:8 IS THIS GRACE GIVEN
- J. 4:7 UNTO EVERYONE IS GIVEN GRACE
- K. 4:29 MAY MINISTER GRACE UNTO THE HEARERS
- L. 6:24 GRACE BE WITH ALL THEM THAT LOVE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

7. **PEACE**

- A. 1:2 PEACE FROM GOD OUR FATHER
- B. 2:14 HE IS OUR PEACE
- C. 2:15 SO MAKING PEACE
- D. 2:17 CAME AND PREACHED PEACE
- E. 4:3 IN THE BOND OF PEACE
- F. 6:15 PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE
- G. 6:23 PEACE BE TO THE BRETHREN

8. **IN CHRIST JESUS**

- A. 1:1 SAINTS IN CHRIST JESUS — FAITHFUL
- B. 1:3 IN HEAVENLY PLACES IN CHRIST
- C. 1:10 ALL THINGS IN CHRIST
- D. 1:12 TRUSTED IN CHRIST
- E. 1:15 FAITH IN THE LORD JESUS
- F. 1:20 WROUGHT IN CHRIST
- G. 2:6 SIT TOGETHER IN HEAVENLY PLACES IN CHRIST JESUS
- H. 2:10 CREATED IN CHRIST JESUS

- I. 2:13 NOW IN CHRIST JESUS
- J. 3:6 PARTAKERS OF HIS PROMISE IN CHRIST
- K. 3:11 PURPOSED IN CHRIST JESUS
- L. 4:21 TRUTH IS IN JESUS
- M. 5:20 IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

9. **SAINTS**

9 times — One who has trusted Christ as Savior — One who has been set apart.

- A. 1:1 SAINTS AT EPHESUS
- B. 1:15 LOVE UNTO ALL THE SAINTS
- C. 1:18 HIS INHERITANCE IN THE SAINTS
- D. 2:19 FELLOW CITIZENS WITH THE SAINTS
- E. 3:8 LESS THAN LEAST OF ALL SAINTS
- F. 3:18 COMPREHEND WITH ALL SAINTS
- G. 4:12 FOR THE PERFECTING OF THE SAINTS
- H. 5:3 AS BECOMETH SAINTS
- I. 6:18 SUPPLICATION FOR ALL SAINTS

**EPISTLE TO THE EPHESIANS
(RICHES OF HIS GRACE)
KEY VERSE 1:7**

**I. BANQUET OF DAILY PROVISIONS — CHAPTERS 1-3
(MY WEALTH IN CHRIST)**

CHAPTER 1 — WEALTH OF HIS GLORY

I. INTRODUCTION — CHAPTER 1:1-3

The Epistle to the Ephesians is one of the Prison Epistles of the Apostle Paul. It was written along with Philippians, Colossians and Philemon during his imprisonment in Rome. In Colossians the emphasis is on Christ as the Head of the Church — it is the most Christ-Centered Epistle. However, here in Ephesians the emphasis is on the Church as the Body of Christ. Several years ago a friend at a Bible Conference where I was ministering said to me, “You know Wendell, this thing called the church is quite a study.” He was in leadership in his church and they were having some internal struggles within the Body of Believers. The truth of the Church is stressed in each Chapter of this Epistle:

- A. CHAPTER I A BODY 1:2
 - B. CHAPTER II A BUILDING 2:21,22
 - C. CHAPTER III A BLENDING 3:6
 - D. CHAPTER IV A BONDING 3:6
 - E. CHAPTER V A BRIDE 5:22-35
 - F. CHAPTER VI A BATTALION 6:10-13
- (1) GOD’S WILL 1:1 Paul was an Apostle by the Will of God
 - (2) GOD’S WORK 1:1 The faithful saints in Ephesus
 - (3) GOD’S WEALTH 1:3
 - (A) BLESSED ONE — GOD THE FATHER
 - (B) THE BLESSER — GOD THE FATHER
 - (C) THE BLESSED ONES — THE BELIEVERS
 - (D) THE BLESSINGS — ALL SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS
 - (E) THE LOCATION OF THE BLESSINGS — IN HEAVENLY PLACES
 - (F) THE BLESSING AGENT — IN CHRIST

II. INSIGHT — CHAPTER 1:4-23 — It is interesting to note from verse 4 through verse 14 we have one long continuous sentence. We have in these verses a complete picture of our salvation in Christ:

A. PLANNED BY THE SOVEREIGN — 1:4-6

- (1) HE ELECTED US — 1:4 — Election looks back and tells us we were chosen in Christ.
- (2) HE PREDESTINED US — 1:5,6 — Predestination means to pre-determined to mark out before hand it looks for it and tells us why we were chosen.
 - (a) PROCEDURE — 1:5 — By Jesus Christ
 - (b) PLAN — 1:5 — According to the pleasure of His Will.
 - (c) PURPOSE — 1:6 — To the Praise of His Glory — In verse 5 the word ADOPTION is the act of God whereby He gives His born again ones *adult-standing* in His family so we can claim our inheritance immediately.

- B. PURCHASED BY THE SON — 1:7-12 — I use 1:7 as the key verse of the Epistle because we see the RICHES OF HIS GRACE — There are 3 key words to note : REDEMPTION — REMISSION — RICHES
- (1) THE MEANS OF GOD’S GRACE — Through His blood — REDEMPTION — Paying required ransom for the release of a person from bondage (I Peter 1:18,19; Rev. 5:9; Heb. 9:22; Rom. 3:24,25; II Cor. 5:18,19) There is a great Illustration in Exodus 12:1-14. We note in Exodus the following — THERE HAD TO BE BLOOD — IT HAD TO BE SHED BLOOD — IT HAD TO BE APPLIED BLOOD.
 - (2) The Miracle of God’s Grace — The forgiveness of sins — REMISSION — Matthew 26:28; Acts 13:38,39; Eph. 4:32; Col. 2:13 — Illustration — Lev. 16:5-10 — The story of the Scapegoat sent into the wilderness — FORGIVE means — to send away.
 - (3) The Measure of God’s Grace — According to the Riches of His Grace — Riches — This word is used at least 6 times in the Epistle — 1:2,6,7; 2:4,7; 3:8,16
 - (a) RICHES OF HIS GRACE — The word GRACE appears about 12 times in the Epistle — 1:2,6,7; 2:5,7,8; 3:2,7,8;; 4:7,29; 6:24 — Compare II Cor. 8:9; 9:8. This Grace is first DELIVERED (1:7) and then DISPLAYED (2:7).
 - (b) RICHES OF HIS GLORY — 1:8; 3:16 — Paul prays (1:18) for ENLIGHTENMENT to discern His Grace and then for ENABLEMENT to demonstrate His Grace (3:16)
 - (c) RICHES OF HIS MERCY — 2:4 — Great love with which He loved us — In 3:8 he states that his Riches are Unsearchable — too great to Comprehend.
- C. PRESENTED BY THE SPIRIT — 1:13,14 — We see that which the SOVEREIGN PLANNED AND THE SON PURCHASED THE SPIRIT PRESENTED.
- (1) THE PLAN — 1:13 — Note the sequence — HEARD — TRUSTED — BELIEVED — SEALED — The word SEALED — denotes the idea of ownership; authority; authenticity. The word EARNEST means down payment; guarantee; pledge; down payment; The same word from which we get the term engagement ring.
 - (2) The Purpose — 1:14 — To the Praise of His Glory — (We see this in vs.6 and also vs.12)
- D. PERCEIVED BY THE SAINT — 1:15-23 — We have in these verses one of four Prison Prayers of Paul — Ephesians 1:15-23; 3:14-21; Philippians 1:4-11; Colossians 1:9-14. In this prayer he prays for DISCERNMENT — ENLIGHTENMENT TO PERCEIVE TRUTH (1:17,18) — The Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation with open eyes to be Enlightened. We read in 1:18 — “That you may know ...”

- (1) HIS PROSPECT — 1:18 — Hope of His calling — vs.14 — Until the redemption of the purchased possession (my body) — 2:7 — That in the ages to come He might show...
- (2) HIS PLAN — 1:18 — The riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints. *Note:* 1:6,12,14 — To the praise of his glory —3:21 — Unto him be glory in the church.
- (3) HIS POWER — 1:19-23 — The exceeding greatness of His power to usward — vs. 20 — Raised Him up from the dead and set Him at His own right hand — Put all things under His feet. His power is UNKNOWN - UNAPPRECIATED - UNAPPROPRIATED!
- (4) HIS POSSESSION — 1:18 — The riches of the glory of His inheritance in the Saints.
 - (a) OUR POSITION — IN CHRIST — 1:3
 - (b) OUR POSSESSION — CHRIST IN US — Col. 1:27; Gal. 2:20
- (5) HIS POSITION — 1:20-23 — Far above all principalities and powers — vs. 22 — He is head of all things to the Church.

CHAPTER II — WEALTH OF HIS GRACE

GRACE is the undeserved, unearned favor and kindness of God bestowed upon mankind — It is God giving me what I never deserved. One way to explain it is by using the letters of the word — **GOD'S RICHES AT CHRIST'S EXPENSE**. There are several aspects of the GRACE OF GOD taught in Scripture:

- (1) SAVING GRACE — Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 2:11
- (2) SUSTAINING GRACE — II Corinthians 9:8
- (3) SUFFICIENT GRACE — II Corinthians 12:9
- (4) SERVING GRACE — Hebrews 12:28

THERE ARE THREE GREAT WORKS OF GOD IN THE LIFE OF THE BELIEVER:

- (1) HIS WORK FOR ME — SALVATION
- (2) HIS WORK IN ME — SANCTIFICATION
- (3) HIS WORK THROUGH ME — SERVICE

I. THE SINNERS STATE — CHAPTER 2:1-3

- A. DEAD IN SIN — 2:1 — There are three types of death — PHYSICAL DEATH — The separation of the soul from the body; SPIRITUAL DEATH — Separation of the soul from God; ETERNAL DEATH — Separation of the soul from God forever
- B. DECEIVED BY THE SYSTEM — 2:2 — We face a three-fold enemy — WORLD, FLESH AND DEVIL.
- C. DOMINATED BY SATAN — 2:2 — He is referred to here as the Prince of the Power of the Air and he operates in the following areas:
 - (1) LOST CROWD (WORLD) DARKNESS — John 3:19; II Cor. 4:4
 - (2) LOCAL CHURCH — DIVISION — Acts 6:1-7
 - (3) LIFE OF THE CHRISTIAN — DISTURBANCE — He likes to rob us of our Peace, Poise and Power — I Peter 5:8; Luke 22:31,32
- D. DEGENERATE IN STANDARDS — 2:3 — We are by nature of the children of wrath — These 4 words describe each person from Birth to Eternity — FORMED — Colossians 1:16 — DEFORMED — Romans 3:23 — Transformed — II Corinthians 5:17 — CONFORMED — Romans 8:29
- E. DESTINED TO SEPARATION — 2:3, 12 — He is talking here concerning the state of the Jew and Gentile without Christ — any person without Christ:
 - (1) WITHOUT A SAVIOR — 2:12
 - (2) WITHOUT A SALVATION — 2:12
 - (3) WITHOUT A SECURITY — 2:12
- F. DELIVERED BY THE SAVIOR — 2:8-10 — We have two great truths in these verses:
 - (1) MEANS OF SALVATION — It is by Grace through Faith plus absolutely nothing.
 - (2) MANIFESTATION OF SALVATION — Once we are saved by Grace through Faith the evidence will be seen as we walk in the pathway of good works.

- II. THE SINNER'S SALVATION - CHAPTER 2:4-22 — We need to *Note*:
- (1) THEY WERE LOST — 2:5 — Dead in Sin
 - (2) THEY WERE LOVED — 2:4 — He loved us
 - (3) THEY WERE LIBERATED — 2:5 — Made us alive in Christ
 - (4) THEY WERE LIFTED — 2:6 — He has raised us up
- A. A GREAT LOVE — 2:4 — This great love is: UNSURPASSED — UNDESERVED — UNENDING — UNIVERSAL — UNCONDITIONAL.
- B. A GREAT LIFE — 2:5 — We are alive in Christ — a new Creation in Him — II Corinthians 5:17.
- (1) ENTER A NEW FAMILY
 - (2) EXPERIENCE A NEW FELLOWSHIP
 - (3) ENJOY A NEW FREEDOM
 - (4) EXPECT A NEW FUTURE
- C. A GREAT LIFT — 2:6 — From dead in sin to be seated in Heavenly Places in Christ.
- D. A GREAT LORD — 2:6-22 — The key verse for this section is 2:14 — For He is our Peace who hath made both (Jew and Gentile) one so that He might reconcile both to God by the Cross — 2:16.
- (1) PERSON OF PEACE — 2:14
 - (2) PROVISION OF PEACE — 2:15
 - (3) PREACHING OF PEACE — 2:17
 - (4) PROCURING OF PEACE — Roman 5:1 — Dr. Wiersbe suggests these three words to describe what God did in the Jew/ gentile relationship — SEPARATION — 2:13-18; RECONCILIATION — 2:19-22; UNIFICATION — 2:15 — Jew and Gentile ONE in Christ — Note the word ONE — 2:14,15,16,18. THEY WERE MADE NIGH BY THE BLOOD — 2:12,18 AND MADE NEW IN THE BODY — 2:14-22. They were now AT PEACE WITH GOD — 2:14 — AND AT PEACE WITH THE GENTILE — 2:15-22. SPIRITUAL DISTANCE AND DIVISION OVERCOME BY CHRIST!

CHAPTER III — WEALTH OF THE GOSPEL — (THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH)

- I. THE CHURCH — A PICTURE OF IT — CHAPTER 3:1-13 — The Birthday of the Church as recorded in Acts 2:41-47 took place the Day of Pentecost.

However, the message of the Gospel was primarily preached to the Jew until Peter goes to Samaritans (Acts 8) and to the Gentiles (Acts 10). In Ephesians 3:1-13 Paul shares with the Ephesian Church how God revealed to him this mystery of Jew and Gentile in the same church on equal basis. A MYSTERY — 3:3,4,9 in Scripture is something previously hidden, but now revealed. Note — MYSTERY — 3:3,4,9. Concerning the Church the Lord Jesus Christ is:

- (1) HER FOUNDER — Matthew 16:13-18
 - (2) HER FOUNDATION — I Corinthians 3:11
 - (3) HER FOUNTAIN —
 - (4) HER FULFILLMENT —
 - (5) HER FINISHER —
- A. PERCEPTION OF THE CHURCH — 3:3,4,9 — God revealed to Paul the mystery of the church (vs. 3) giving him knowledge of the mystery (vs. 4) and showing him the bond of fellowship in the church (vs. 9).
- B. PLAN OF THE CHURCH — 3:6,10 — The Gentiles along with the Jews were fellowheirs (vs. 6) in the same body. They are together to portray the Wisdom of God for a lost world to behold (vs. 10)
- C. PEOPLE OF THE CHURCH — 3:6 — God is no respecter of persons so whosoever will may come.
- D. PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH — 3:8,10 — To Glorify God — Note: 3:21 — Glory in the Church
- E. PREACHERS OF THE CHURCH — 3:7 — Paul had been Divinely commissioned by God even through he certainly was not worthy (vs. 8)
- F. PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH — 3:1,6,8,11,12
- (1) Communication — 3:6 — Fellowheirs and Partakers of the Promise of the Gospel
 - (2) Compassion — 3:8 — Paul called himself less than the least of all Saints.
 - (3) Confidence — 3:11,12 — His eternal purpose gives us boldness with confidence that what He promises He will perform (vs. 11,12).
- G. POWER OF THE CHURCH — 3:7 — It is not our power or ability but His power in us — Acts 1:8; 3:20. Through the Church we now have:
- (1) NEW RELATIONSHIP — 3:6 — Fellowheirs
 - (2) NEW RESOURCES — 3:7 — His Grace and Power
 - (3) NEW RICHES — 3:8 — These riches are not temporal but eternal and beyond the full comprehension of the human mind. The reason the above is experienced in a practical way in our lives is because also through the Church:
 - (1) HIS PERSON IS EXTENDED — 3:21
 - (2) HIS PRESENCE IS EXPRESSED — 3:20,21

- (3) HIS POWER IS EXHIBITED — 3:20,21
- (4) HIS PURPOSE IS EXECUTED — 3:10

II. THE CHURCH — A PRAYER FOR IT — CHAPTER 3:14-21 — Paul's second prayer in this Epistle is for ENABLEMENT TO PRACTICE TRUTH. This is a specific prayer for Strength in the Inner Man so the Outer Man will stand firm for the Lord. (3:16-18)

- (1) FOUNDATION OF LOVE — 3:17 — Rooted and Grounded in Love
- (2) FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE — 3:18 — With all Saints
- (3) FULLNESS OF LOVE — 3:17
 - (a) BREADTH — Boundless — Around the World
 - (b) LENGTH — Endless — From Eternity past to Eternity future
 - (c) DEPTH — Fathomless — To the Cross
 - (d) HEIGHT — Measureless — To the Throne

A. PRAYER FOR STRENGTH — 3:14-16

- (1) THE PLACE — vs.16 — Inner man — In your Hearts
- (2) THE PERSON — vs.16 — Father (vs.14) — Son (vs.14,17,19,21) — Spirit (vs.16).
- (3) THE PROCESS — vs.16 — According to the Riches of His Glory

B. PRAYER FOR SECURITY (STABILITY) — 3:17 — The word DWELL means to settle down and feel at home — Compare with James 1:8.

- (1) HIS PRESENCE — vs.17 — Christ may dwell in your hearts
- (2) HIS PROTECTION — vs.17 — ROOTED — For Nourishment and Stability — GROUNDED — Foundations on which we build.

C. PRAYER FOR SATISFACTION — 3:18,19

- (1) THE SCOPE OF IT — 3:18 — All Saints — Breadth — Length — Depth — Height
- (2) THE SECURING OF IT — 3:18 — The word COMPREHEND AND APPREHEND come from the same Latin word PREHENDERE which means TO GRASP — It suggests laying hold of something for yourself.
- (3) THE SUPPLYING OF IT — 3:19 — Filled with all the Fullness (Compare Ephesians 5:18 along with 4:13) — Unto the measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ.

D. PRAYER FOR SOVEREIGNTY — 3:20,21 — Note: In vs.20 Unto Him and in vs.21 UNTO HIM. Compare this with Philippians 2:9-11 — God has highly exalted Him — At His Name one day every knee will bow and every tongue will confess.

II. **BUSINESS OF DAILY PERFORMANCE — CHAPTER 4:1-6:9**
(MY WALK IN THE COMMUNITY)

Paul now states in the light of all we are and have in Christ here is how we ought to live our lives daily. He opens in 4:1 by pleading with us to Walk Worthy of our Calling in Christ. We can briefly summarize this Section by the Way we are to Walk:

- (1) A CONSISTENT WALK — 4:1 — Our BEHAVIOR is to be consistent with our BELIEF — Our DOCTRINE with our DEPARTMENT and our CONDUCT with our CONVICTIONS.

- (2) A COMPASSIONATE WALK — 5:2 — We are to Walk in Love demonstrating the love which Christ has showed us.
- (3) A CAUTIOUS WALK — 5:15 — To Walk CIRCUMSPECTLY is to carefully select your steps — This requires the Wisdom of God (Psalm 37:23)

I. A WALK THAT IS GODLY - CHAPTER 4:1-32

- A. PROMOTES UNITY IN THE BODY - 4:1-6
 - (1) THE CONSTRAINT (MOTIVE) - 4:1 - Let your conduct correspond with your calling (II Corinthians 5:14)). We have a HEAVENLY CALLING (Hebrews 3:1); A HIGH CALLING (Philippians 3:14; A HOLY CALLING (II Timothy 1:9).
 - (2) THE CHARACTERISTICS - 4:1-13 - WALK - 4:1, 17; 5:2,8,15
 - (a) HEAVENLY WALK - 4:1
 - (b) HUMBLE WALK - 4:2 - LOWLINESS - MEEKNESS
 - (c) HELPFUL WALK - 4:2 - LONG-SUFFERING - FORBEARING - Lovingly putting up with what we do not like in other people.
 - (d) HARD WALK - 4:3 - ENDEAVORING - Responsibility to maintain unity in the Body.
 - (e) HOLY WALK - 4:3 - HOLY SPIRIT - We need to be constantly filled with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 5:18).
 - (3) The Consummation - 4:13 - Until we all come in the Unity of the Faith... Unto a Perfect man — Fullness of Christ. We have a 7-FOLD BOND that enables us to Promote Unity in the Body of Christ:
 - (a) ONE BODY - 4:4 - STRUCTURE
 - (b) ONE SPIRIT - 4:4 - STRENGTH
 - (c) ONE HOPE - 4:4 - STIMULANT
 - (d) ONE LORD - 4:5 - SUPERIOR
 - (e) ONE FAITH - 4:5 - STANDARD
 - (f) ONE BAPTISM- 4:5 - SYMBOL
 - (g) ONE GOD - 4:6 - SUFFICIENT

- B. PRODUCES USEFULNESS OF THE BODY — 4:7-16 — God gives gifted men to minister in the Body to Perfect Unity (4:12).
 - (1) THE GIVER — 4:7,8,11 — God is the Giver
 - (2) THE GIFTED — 4:7 — Unto every one of us
 - (3) THE GIFTS — 4:11
 - (a) APOSTLES - WE ARE BUILT ON THE FOUNDATION THEY LAID.
 - (b) PROPHETS - (SAME AS ABOVE)
 - (c) EVANGELISTS
 - (d) PASTORS
 - (e) TEACHERS
 - (4) THE GOALS — 4:12-14
 - (a) PERFECTING — 4:12 — MATURING OF THE SAINTS
 - (b) PERFORMING — 4:12 — THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY
 - (c) PROMOTING — 4:12 — EDIFYING OF THE BODY OF CHRIST — We are to Go In His Work (4:12) — TO GROW IN HIS WORD (4:12) — TO GLOW IN HIS WORLD (4:14,15).

- C. PURGES THE UNCLEAR FROM THE BODY — 4:17-32
 - (1) PUT OFF THE GRAVECLOTHES — 4:17-31

WALK NOT — 4:17-19

- (a) VANITY OF THE MIND — 4:17 — FUTILITY OF MAN'S THINKING
- (b) IGNORANCE OF GOD'S TRUTH — 4:18 — BLINDNESS OF THE HEART
- (c) MORALLY AND SPIRITUALLY CALLOUSED — 4:19 — PAST FEELING
- (d) DEPRAVED IN MIND — 4:19
 - (1) LASCIVIOUSNESS — PRACTICE OF EVERY KIND OF IMPUNITY — ABSENCE OF ALL MORAL RESTRAINT — UNBRIDLED SELF — INDULGENCE.
 - (2) GREEDINESS — UNBOUNDED COVETOUSNESS — UNINHIBITED LUST — GREEDINESS AND COVETOUSNESS ARE INSEPARABLE

PUT AWAY — 4:25-31

- (a) LYING — 4:25 — Contrary to fact - Spoken to deceive.
- (b) BITTERNESS — 4:25 — Settled hostility that poisons the whole Inner man.
- (c) WRATH — 4:26 - Explosion on the outside of anger on the inside.
- (d) ANGER — 4:26 — Internal smoldering — Subtle deep feeling.
- (e) STEALING — 4:28 — Taking what is not yours.
- (f) CORRUPT SPEECH — 4:29 — It is the idea of rotten fruit — unwholesome - worthless.
- (g) CLAMOUR — 4:31 — Loss of control — Audible voicing of Anger.
- (h) EVIL SPEAKING — 4:31 — Slander — Blasphemy — Defamation of a person.
- (i) MALICE — 4:31 — Root of all vices — General term for evil.

(2) PUT ON THE GRACE-CLOTHES - 4:23,24,32

PUT ON — 4:23, 24 — THE NEW MAN YOU BECAME AT SALVATION

- (a) RIGHTEOUSNESS — Right living before Man
- (b) HOLINESS — Right living before God

BE YE — 4:32

- (1) KIND — Suited to the need — Colossians 3:12
- (2) TENDER-HEARTED — Inner Compassion
- (3) FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER — Colossians 3:13 — Being Gracious - To give graciously as a Favor —
Note: BASIS OF FORGIVENESS — Even as God for Christ's sake has Forgiven Us.

II. A WALK THAT IS GRACIOUS — CHAPTER 5:1-6:9 — The key verse for this entire section is 5:18 — ...BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT. We can only maintain a Godly and Gracious Walk as we are controlled by the Holy Spirit. Our Christian Walk involves every Aspect of our lives as seen in these verses:

- A. OUR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP — 5:15-33
- B. OUR PARENTAL RELATIONSHIPS — 6:1-4
- C. OUR PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS — 6:5-9

1. WALK IN LOVE — 5:1-7 — The word FOLLOWERS in verse 1 is the same as the word IMITATORS. We are to walk as Imitators of God and these verses are a continuation of the subject in the previous Chapter. We are to put off the GRAVECLOTHES and to put on the Grace-Clothes. In Chapter 4 we are to have a CONSISTENT WALK and in Chapter 5 he emphasizes it also is to be a COMPASSIONATE WALK (5:2).

PUT OFF — 5:3,4

- (1) FORNICATION — 5:3 — Sexual Immortality
 - (2) UNCLEANNESS — 5:3 — Any kind of IMPURITY
 - (3) COVETOUSNESS — 5:3 — Greed — Wanting what is not yours
 - (4) FILTHINESS — 5:4 — Obscenity
 - (5) FOOLISH TALKING — 5:4 — Stupid words
 - (6) JESTING — 5:5 — To twist — Vulgar wit — Frivolous
2. WALK IN LIGHT — 5:8-14 — We are the children of light saved out of darkness and our walk needs to reflect this Truth (5:8,11). We need to:
 - (a) PROVE WHAT IS ACCEPTABLE — 5:8-10
 - (b) REPROVE WHAT IS UNACCEPTABLE — 5:11-14
 3. WALK IN LOVE AND LIGHT — 5:15-6:9 — We are also to have a CAUTIOUS WALK (5:15) The word CIRCUMSPECTLY means looking all around — Carefully selecting your steps — It is a disciplined walk. THE KEY TO THIS WALK IS TO BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT (5:18).
 - A. PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS — 5:15-33 — God's plan for each of us as believers is to have HOLY — HAPPY — HARMONIOUS HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS. The Apostle Paul shares how this works in the home with the relationships in the marriage. We now have the secret to a HOLY AND HARMONIOUS HOME:
 - (1) FOUNDATION OF A GODLY HOME — 5:15-19
 - (a) WISDOM OF GOD — 5:15 — DIVINE DISCERNMENT
 - (b) WILL OF GOD — 5:17 — GOD'S PLAN FOR MARRIAGE
 - (c) WORD OF GOD — 5:19 — PSALMS — GUIDEBOOK FOR A GODLY HOME
 - (2) FEATURES OF A GODLY HOME — 5:19-33
 - (a) SINGING FAMILY — 5:19 — The Joy of the Lord will radiate through our home
 - (b) SATISFIED FAMILY — 5:20 — The word GRACE AND GRATITUDE come from the same root word. Note: Giving thanks always for all things
 - (c) SUBMISSIVE FAMILY — 5:21-25 — There first must be SUBMISSION to the LORDSHIP OF CHRIST and then to the LEADERSHIP OF THE MAN. We need to remember that submission is earned not demanded. If we as husbands love our wives as Christ loves us then submission will be no problem.
 - (d) SACRIFICIAL FAMILY — 5:25 — Christ gave His life for the Church — What are we willing to sacrifice for him? The number one problem in marriages relationships is SELFISHNESS which is the opposite of SACRIFICE.

- (e) SANCTIFIED FAMILY — 5:26-33 — The word Sanctify means to Set Apart. We are to set ourselves apart for Christ and forsaking all others for each other.

B. PARENTAL RELATIONSHIPS — 6:1-4 — Parent/Children Relationship

- (1) TO OBEY AS CHRISTIANS — 6:1 — In the Lord
- (2) TO OBEY IS CORRECT — 6:1 — That is Right
- (3) TO OBEY IS COMMANDED — 6:2 — It is the first Commandment with Promise. To HONOR means to show them Respect—Love—Care. Bring them honor by the way we live.
- (4) TO OBEY IS COMPENSATED — 6:3 — That is may be well with thee — Live long on earth RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FATHER:
 - (1) DELIGHT THEM — 6:4 — Do not use your authority to abuse the child but to encourage and build the child.
ENCOURAGE IS THE OPPOSITE OF PROVOKE!
 - (2) DEVELOP THEM — 6:4 — The word NURTURE conveys the thought of learning through proper discipline.
 - (3) DISCIPLINE THEM — 6:4 — Note: Hebrews 12:6 — WHOM THE LORD LOVETH HE CHASTENETH — **DISCIPLINE MUST ALWAYS BE ADMINISTERED IN LOVE.**
 - (4) DIRECT THEM — 6:4 — The word ADMONITION means to Instruct and Encourage them in the right Direction.

C. POSITIONAL (PROFESSIONAL) RELATIONSHIPS — 6:5-9 —

The writer now discusses the MASTER/SLAVE RELATIONSHIP which we can apply to the EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE RELATIONSHIP.

THE EMPLOYEE:

- (1) READY WITH RESPECT — 6:5 — Not afraid but showing proper respect.
- (2) RESPOND WITHOUT RESERVATION — 6:6,7 — Do not be a clock-watcher but do what you do from the heart — **BE A GOD-PLEASER NOT A MAN-PLEASER!**
- (3) RECEIVE A REWARD — 6:8 — We shall receive from the Lord. A Christian ought to be the best employee in the Company.

THE EMPLOYER:

- (1) SET THE FOUNDATION — 6:9 — Do the same as is expected for your employees. If we expect the best then we must do the best — **DO NOT THREATEN THEM!**
- (2) SHARE THE FRUITS — 6:9 — If you let a man share the results of his labor he will work harder and better.
- (3) SUBMITTED TO THE FATHER — 6:9 —
- (4) SHOW NO FAVORITISM — 6:9 — **NO RESPECT OF PERSONS WITH OUR GOD!**

**III. BATTLE OF DAILY PERSISTENCE — CHAPTER 6:10-24
(MY WARFARE IN COMBAT)**

The Apostle now reminds his readers they are involved in a SPIRITUAL WARFARE which requires SPIRITUAL ARMOUR.

1. WARFARE THAT IS GIGANTIC — 6:10-24

- (1) THE ENEMY WE FACE — 6:10-12 — The Devil and his Demons are very subtle in their attempt to destroy God's Work and His Workers.
 - (a) HIS TARGET — 6:11,12 — The enemy especially targets the Servants of the Lord. I believe his number one area of attack is the home and especially the families of Christian leaders.
REMEMBER Satan made his first initial attack on planet earth in man's first home (Genesis 3:11-3). in Matthew 4:1-11 we read where our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, was the special object of Satan's attack.
 - (b) HIS TIMING — The Enemy it's not All-Knowing but he knows a lot. He does not always come when we are in the valley of despair and defeat, but often when we are on the Mountaintop of Victory.
Note: HIS STRATEGIC TIMING WITH JESUS:
 - (1) A TIME OF PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION — Matthew 4:1 — Jesus had just fasted for 40 days and He was hungry and physically weak. We all react differently when we are sick, weak and tired.
 - (2) A TIME OF POWERFUL EXPERIENCE — Matthew 3:13-17 — Jesus had just been baptized and the Heavens were opened — the Father spoke from Heaven — The Holy Spirit descended in the form of a dove.
 - (3) A TIME OF PERSONAL ENDEAVOR — Jesus had basically been in obscurity for 30 years — He is now about to begin His public ministry to the Multitudes.
 - (c) HIS TACTICS — 6:11 — Satan only has one bag of tricks and seemingly they are working better today than ever before. He always comes through one of the following or a combination of them (I John 2:15-17):
 - (a) LUST OF THE FLESH — I John 2:16
 - (b) LUST OF THE EYES — I John 2:16
 - (c) PRIDE OF LIFE — I John 2:16 - He used all three with Jesus in the Wilderness and with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.
- (2) THE EQUIPMENT WE ARE FURNISHED — 6:13-18 — Note: 6:14 — ...PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD.
 - (a) TO STAND — 6:11
 - (b) TO WITHSTAND — 6:13

THE ARMOUR GOD PROVIDES FOR THE CHRISTIAN IN BATTLE:

- A. GIRDLE OF TRUTH — 6:14 — A belt to support and strengthen the body plus hold together the other pieces of armour. The Scripture declares:
 - (1) THE SAVIOR IS TRUTH — John 14:6
 - (2) THE SPIRIT IS TRUTH — John 16:13
 - (3) THE SCRIPTURE IS TRUTH — John 17:17

- B. BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS — 6:14 — It was made of metal plates and chains covering the body from the waist to the neck front and back. Compare — second Corinthians 5:21; Ephesians 4:24

- C. SHOES OF THE GOSPEL — 6:15 — These were sandals with hobnails in the soles for better traction. The Bible declares the beauty of the feet of those who carry the message of the Gospel (Isaiah 52:7; Romans 10:15).

- D. SHIELD OF FAITH — 6:16 — It was large being 4' x 2' made of wood covered with leather. The shields could be inter-locked so they marched as one. Satan shoots darts at the Heart and Mind of the Child of God.

- E. HELMET OF SALVATION — 6:17 — This protects the mind because as a man thinks so is he (II Corinthians 11:1-3; Ephesians 4:21; II Peter 3:18).

- F. SWORD OF THE SPIRIT — WORD OF GOD — 6:17 — That was an offensive weapon and was the short sword used for close combat. *Note:* Matthew 4:1-11 — Each time the devil came to the Lord Jesus with another attack, Jesus responded — “IT IS WRITTEN” — quoting all three times from the Book of Deuteronomy. The enemy cannot stand against the BLOOD and the BOOK! **THE BLOOD MAKES ME SAFE AND THE BOOK MAKES ME SURE (PSALM 119:11)!**
 - (3) THE ENERGY WE FIND — 6:19-24 — Praying always with all Prayer and Supplication.
 - (a) BOLDNESS TO SPEAK — 6:19,20 — To Speak the Gospel Boldly
 - (b) BRETHREN TO SHARE — 6:21-24 — Thank God we are not in the Battle alone.

 - A. THE PRAYER — 6:18
 - B. THE PERIOD — 6:18 — ALWAYS — I Thessalonians 5:17
 - C. THE PERSISTENCE — 6:18 — ALL PERSEVERANCE
 - D. THE PERILS — 6:18 — WATCHING
 - E. THE PEOPLE — 6:18 — ALL SAINTS
 - F. THE PREMISE — 6:18 — IN THE SPIRIT — Romans 8:26,27

WOW — I AM RICH!!!!